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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NEW DELHI 000303

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/11/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ETTC](#) [ECON](#) [PK](#) [IN](#) [INDO](#) [PAK](#)

SUBJECT: INDIA VERY CONFIDENT IT IS RIGHT ON BAGLIHAR DAM

Classified By: PolCouns Geoff Pyatt, Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

[11](#). (C) Summary: In a January 12 meeting with PolCouns, MEA Joint Secretary (Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran) Arun K Singh was brimming with cor

[12](#). (C) J/S Arun Singh was unusually confident about India's position on Baglihar in a January 12 conversation with PolCouns and Poloffs (ot

[13](#). (C) Singh attributed the Pakistani position on arbitration to politics, which he saw as outweighing the technical issues. Pakistan want

[14](#). (C) Looking back historically, the Joint Secretary saw the Dam as analagous in some respects to the Wullar Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Prc
Singh recalled that the Indus Waters Treaty had worked very well so far, and even held up during the 2002 Indo-Pak crisis, when the Baglihar

World Bank View

[15](#). (C) In a January 12 conversation with D/Polcouns, a World Bank New Delhi official who is very familiar with the case observed that Pakis
Comment

[16](#). (C) We have rarely seen Arun Singh more confident on an issue than this one. He was beyond comfortable, indicating clearly that the GOI

[17](#). (C) While it may be preferable for the case to be resolved bilaterally, several years of talks and much posturing on both sides have shc
Given the local World Bank office's lack of independent views on this looming dispute, Mission would appreciate Washington perspectives on t
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